



# Senate

General Assembly

February Session, 2016

**File No. 316**

Senate Bill No. 254

*Senate, March 30, 2016*

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. CASSANO, S. of the 4th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING SATURDAY REGISTRARS OF VOTERS SESSIONS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 9-17 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

3 (a) For the purposes of this section, "primary day" means the day  
4 that a primary for state, district and municipal offices is being held in  
5 accordance with section 9-423, and "election day" means the day of  
6 each regular election. (1) The registrars of voters of each town shall  
7 hold sessions to examine the qualifications of electors and admit those  
8 found qualified on the dates and at the times set forth in this section.  
9 Such sessions shall be held on the following days during the hours  
10 indicated, except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection:

T1	Day	Hours
T2	Fourteenth day	

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T3	before primary day .....	any two hours between
T4		5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.
T5	[Saturday of third week	
T6	before election day .....	10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.]
T7	Seventh day	
T8	before election day .....	9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

11 The session of the registrars of voters on the seventh day before  
 12 election day shall be the last [regular] session for [the] admission of  
 13 electors prior to an election, as defined in subsection (y) of section 9-1.  
 14 (2) No town having a population of less than twenty-five thousand  
 15 persons shall be required to hold sessions for admission of electors on  
 16 the fourteenth day before primary day.

17 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,  
 18 the registrars of voters shall hold a limited session on the last week day  
 19 before each regular election from nine o'clock a.m. to five o'clock p.m.  
 20 for the purpose of admitting only those persons whose qualifications  
 21 as to age, citizenship or residence in the municipality were attained  
 22 after the last session for [the] admission of electors prior to an election.  
 23 The registrars shall enter the names of those electors admitted at such  
 24 limited session on the proper list, with their residences by street and  
 25 numbers.

26 (c) In addition to the sessions held pursuant to subsections (a) and  
 27 (b) of this section, the registrars of voters in each town shall hold one  
 28 session each year, between the first of January and the last day of the  
 29 school year, at each public high school in such town, for the admission  
 30 of persons who are eligible for admission under subsection (a) or (b) of  
 31 section 9-12, provided, in the case of a public high school in a regional  
 32 school district, such session shall be held on a rotating basis by the  
 33 registrars of voters for each town which is a member of the regional  
 34 school district. The registrars of voters need not give notice of this  
 35 session by publication in a newspaper.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:
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Section 1	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	9-17
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**GAE**      *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

***OFA Fiscal Note***

***State Impact:*** None

***Municipal Impact:***

<b>Municipalities</b>	<b>Effect</b>	<b>FY 17 \$</b>	<b>FY 18 \$</b>
Various Municipalities	Savings	Potential	Potential

***Explanation***

The bill, which eliminates the mandatory voter registration session on the Saturday of the third week before each state or municipal election, will result in a minimal savings to towns that will no longer have to compensate employees for that session.

***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

**OLR Bill Analysis****SB 254*****AN ACT CONCERNING SATURDAY REGISTRARS OF VOTERS SESSIONS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill eliminates the requirement that registrars of voters hold a voter registration session from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on the Saturday of the third week before a regular election. It also makes technical changes.

The bill retains requirements that the registrars hold the following registration sessions:

1. a session for two hours between 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. on the 14th day before a primary for towns with 25,000 or more residents;
2. a session from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the seventh day before a regular election;
3. a limited session on the last weekday before a regular election, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., to admit individuals who become eligible to vote after the last voter registration session before an election; and
4. one session annually, between January 1 and the last day of school at each public high school in their town. (In regional school districts, the registrars of the member towns rotate the responsibility for conducting this session.)

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2016

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

## Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 15      Nay 0      (03/11/2016)